

Appl. No. 10/017,270

Amdt. dated 11/8/04

Reply to Office Action of 9/28/04

PATENT

Docket: 020121

REMARKS

Before this response, claims 21-43 were pending in the application. In the above amendments, claims 21, 27, 30, 35, and 39 have been amended. No claims have been added or cancelled in this response. Accordingly, claims 21-43 are still pending in the application. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented are allowable.

In the Office Action mailed August 28, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 21-43 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hariharan (WO 01/95312 A1) in view of Zinser et al. (6,678,654). Applicants respectfully submit that neither Hariharan, nor Zinser, nor a combination of the two, teach or suggest every element of any of claims 21-43 and that these claims are allowable over the art cited.

Referring to claim 21 as a representative claim of claims 21-43, claim 21 recites configuring a front end voice processor to one of a plurality of configurations, "each configuration governing a processing of voice features in accordance with at least one back end voice processor design for recognizing speech based on the voice features". Applicants respectfully submit that neither Hariharan, nor Zinser, nor a combination of the two, teach or suggest this limitation.

Zinser discusses a transcoder that transcodes data compressed with a first compression standard to a bit stream representing the data in accordance with a second compression standard. The transcoders in Zinser are not speech recognition processors. Nowhere in Zinser is a suggestion or a teaching that a front end processor be configured to process voice features in accordance with a backend voice processor design for recognizing speech based on the voice features.

Hariharan describes a voice recognition system where the amount of speech features extracted by a front end device can be adjusted based on conditions that affect speech processing. Any adjustments in Hariharan are due to changes in the conditions and do not depend on the type

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of back end design that is receiving the extracted voice features. The amount of extracted features are changed based on prevailing conditions such as channel traffic conditions at the server side and environmental noise conditions. (See page 10, lines 2-5). Nowhere within Hariharan is a discussion or a showing that a front end voice processor is configured to one of plurality of configurations where each of the configurations govern a processing of voice features in accordance with a back end voice processor design for recognizing speech based on the voice features.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that neither Hariharan, nor Zinser nor a combination of the two teach or suggest every element of any one of claims 21-43 and that these claims are allowable.

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REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE

In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that all pending claims in the application are patentable. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 11/8/04

By: 

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